

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the following amended paragraph in the specification at page 17, lines 7-27, which specifically corrects the following at line 22:

modulator 708 744, such as modulator 708(a) ~~744(a)~~, is ready to receive a transport stream packet 500 for

and at line 26:

from the particular output buffer 744, such as output buffer 744(a), to the particular modulator 708 744, such as modulator 708(a) ~~744(a)~~, which requested a transport stream packet 500.

Replacement paragraph:

After the packet handler 724 has retrieved a data unit packet 800 from memory 726, the packet handler 724 determines whether the payload 504 of the data unit packet 800 should be encrypted prior to transmission from the multimodulator 700. In one embodiment, the encryption information is included in the management field 806 of the DUH 802. In another embodiment, the packet handler 724 consults a table to determine whether to encrypt the payload 504 of the data unit packet 800. In one embodiment, when the payload 504 of the retrieved data unit packet 800 should be encrypted the packet handler 724 sends the data unit packet 800 to the encryptor 738 where the payload 504 of data unit packet 800 is encrypted. After the encryptor 738 has encrypted the payload 504 of the data unit packet 800, the data unit packet 800 is sent to the packet requestor 740. When the payload 504 should not be encrypted the data unit packet 800 is sent directly to the packet requestor 740. In another embodiment, the data unit packet is sent to the encryptor 740, and the encryptor 740 determines whether or not to encrypt the payload 504 of data unit packet 800 prior to sending the data unit packet to the packet requestor 740. The packet requestor 740 receives the data unit packet 800 and puts the transport stream packet 500 of the data unit packet 800 in at least one output buffer 744. Each of the modulators 708(a) - 708(d) is in communication with a corresponding output buffer 744(a) - 744(d), respectively. When a particular modulator 708, such as modulator 708(a), is ready to receive a transport stream packet 500 for transmission therefrom, the particular modulator sends a message to the FPGA 706 requesting a transport stream packet 500. The FPGA 706 responds to the message by sending a transport stream packet 500 from the particular output buffer 744, such as output buffer 744(a), to the particular modulator 708, such as modulator 708(a), which requested a transport stream packet 500.